

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A fiber optic connector for mounting to a cable having a plurality of optical fibers and optically connecting the optical fibers to mating optical fibers, wherein the optical fibers and the mating optical fibers have termini mounted to respective ends thereof, the fiber optic connector comprising:

- 5 a housing defining an exterior of the fiber optic connector and having a forward portion and
 a rear portion to which the cable is secured and through which the plurality of optical
 fibers enter the connector;
- a support member having a shank which is ~~engaged with a retainer ring and which is~~
 disposed within the housing extending between the rear portion of the housing ~~and a~~
10 and the forward portion of the housing with a gap disposed between the housing and
 the shank through which the optical fibers extend; ~~and~~
- a recess which is disposed in the forward portion of the housing and has an interiorly
 disposed periphery which defines a recess profile, the recess profile having inner
 portions which receive the termini of the optical fibers;
- 15 a retainer ring disposed on the shank of the support member in the forward portion of the
 housing such that the retainer ring is positioned within the recess;
 the retainer ring further including an edge periphery which defines a retainer profile having
 outward portions and inward portions, the inward portions being defined for
 receiving the termini of the optical fibers; and
- 20 wherein the recess profile and the retainer profile are formed such that the retainer profile fits
 within the recess profile in a keyed arrangement, thereby angularly aligning the
 retainer ring with the recess.

Claim 2 (currently amended) ~~A fiber~~ The fiber optic connector in accordance with claim 1, further including electrical contacts for mounting to electrical conductors included in the cable and extending through the gap between the housing and the shank.

Claims 3-4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (currently amended) ~~A fiber~~ The fiber optic connector in accordance with claim 1, wherein the shank is dimensioned to allow the optical fibers to wrap around the shank with a bend radius which is not less than the predetermined minimum bend radius for the optical fibers.

Claim 6 (currently amended) ~~A fiber~~ The fiber optic connector in accordance with claim 1, wherein the gap between the housing and the shank is dimensioned to allow the optical fibers to wrap around the shank with sufficient slack between the cable and the termini to allow for rebuilding one of the termini without requiring all of the termini within the connector to be rebuilt.

Claim 7 (currently amended) ~~A fiber~~ The fiber optic connector in accordance with claim 6, further including electrical contacts for mounting to electrical conductors included in the cable and extending through the gap between the housing and the shank, the conductors wrapping around the shank with the optical fibers with sufficient slack between the cable and the contacts to allow for rebuilding one of the contacts and termini without requiring all of the contacts and termini within the connector to be rebuilt.

Claims 8-9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (currently amended) ~~A electrical~~ An electrical connector for mounting to a cable having a plurality of electrical conductors and electrically connecting the electrical conductors to mating electrical conductors, wherein the electrical conductors and the mating electrical conductors have contacts mounted to respective ends thereof, the electrical connector comprising:

- 5 a housing defining an exterior of the electrical connector and having a forward portion and
 a rear portion to which the cable is secured and through which the plurality of
 electrical conductors enter the connector;
- a support member having a shank which is ~~engaged with a retainer ring and which is~~
 disposed within the housing extending between the rear portion of the housing ~~and a~~
10 and the forward portion of the housing with a gap disposed between the housing and
 the shank through which the electrical conductors extend; ~~and~~
- a recess which is disposed in the forward portion of the housing and has an interiorly
 disposed periphery which defines a recess profile, the recess profile having inner
 portions which receive the contacts of the electrical conductors;
- 15 a retainer ring disposed on the shank of the support member in the forward portion of the
 housing such that the retainer ring is positioned within the recess;
 the retainer ring further includes an edge periphery which defines a retainer profile having
 outward portions and inward portions, the inward portions being defined for
 receiving the contacts of the electrical conductors; and
- 20 wherein the recess profile and the retainer profile are formed such that the retainer profile fits
 within the recess profile in a keyed arrangement, thereby angularly aligning the
 retainer ring with the recess.

Claim 11 (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electrical connector in accordance with claim 10, further including termini for mounting to optical fibers included in the cable and extending through the gap between the housing and the shank.

Claims 12-13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electrical connector in accordance with claim 10,
wherein the gap between the housing and the shank is dimensioned to allow the electrical conductors
to wrap around the shank with sufficient slack between the cable and the contacts to allow for
rebuilding one of the contacts without requiring all of the contacts within the connector to be rebuilt.

Claim 15 (currently amended) ~~An~~ The electrical connector in accordance with claim 14,
further including termini for mounting to optical fibers included in the cable and extending through
the gap between the housing and the shank, the optical fibers wrapping around the shank with the
electrical conductors with sufficient slack between the cable and the termini to allow for rebuilding
one of the contacts and termini without requiring all of the contacts and termini within the connector
to be rebuilt.

Claims 16-20 (cancelled)